



# MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

## ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

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JANUARY 12, 1906.

No. 3

W. H. MAW, Esq., PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

Lieut. George Alfred Alcock, R.N.R., R.M.S. "Athenic,"  
c/o Shaw Savill & Albion Co., Royal Albert Dock,  
London, E. ;

Hugh Daniel Badcock, M.A., Assoc. Mem. Inst. C.E., Town  
Engineer, Pretoria, Transvaal, South Africa ;

Rev. Arthur Edwin Brisco-Owen, M.A., The Rectory,  
Cholderton, Salisbury ;

William Robert Bruce, Observatorio Magnético, Pilar, Pro-  
vincia de Córdoba, Argentine Republic ;

Lieut. Herbert Archer Edwards, R.N.R., Marine Officer,  
Lagos, West Africa ;

Crawford M. Fleming, 14 North Kinver Road, Sydenham,  
S.E. ;

William Edgar Geil, M.A., F.R.G.S., Doylestown, Pennsyl-  
vania, U.S.A., and 123 Pall Mall, S.W. ;

Rev. Thomas Henry Leale, A.K.C., 65 Gaskarth Road,  
Balham Hill, S.W. ;

Lieut. Frederick William Mace, R.N.R., 2 Rutland Avenue,  
Sefton Park, Liverpool ;

William Ottway, Orion Works ; and 8 Uxbridge Road,  
Ealing, W. ;

Leph Richmond Powell, 10 Cranfield Road, Bexhill-on-Sea,  
Sussex ;

Rev. John Gardham Reed, Burlington Manse, South Road,  
Saffron Walden, Essex ; and

Richard Frind Roberts, Westcroft, Warlingham, Surrey,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

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The following candidates were proposed for election as Fellows of the Society, the names of the proposers from personal knowledge being appended :—

Frederick Joseph William Crowe, Organist of Chichester Cathedral, Marsden, Chichester (proposed by J. A. Greenwood) ;  
 Thomas Edward Heath, 53 Park Place, Cardiff (proposed by J. Larmor) ;  
 Samuel Thomas Johnson, Melrose, Bridport, Dorset (proposed by H. H. Turner) ;  
 George Tyrrell McCaw, B.Sc., Geodetic Survey, North Eastern Rhodesia, South Africa (proposed by S. S. Hough) ; and  
 Percy Alfred Talbot, B.A., F.R.G.S., F.A.I., Royal Societies' Club, St. James's Street, S.W. (proposed by E. A. Reeves).

Sixty-three presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including, amongst others :—

T. E. Heath, *Our Stellar Universe*, presented by the author ;  
 Observatoire de Bordeaux, Catalogue photographique du Ciel (coordonnées rectilignes), tome i., presented by the French Government.

*Astrographic Chart of the Heavens*:—18 Charts from the Royal Observatory, Greenwich ; 64 Charts from the Paris Observatory, and 10 Charts from the Observatory, San Fernando.

### *The Value of the Constant of Refraction.* By Dr. L. de Ball.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

Professor Bauschinger, in his researches on astronomical refraction,\* gives the following values for the constants of refraction as reduced to the height of the barometer of 760 mm. and to the temperature of 0° C. of the internal and the external thermometer, to which I add that lately determined by Dr. Courvoisier :†

60"120 Greenwich 1857-65	60"209 Pulkowa 1865
·192 „ 1877-86	·058 „ 1885
·268 Tab. Pulk.	·104 Bauschinger
·122 Fuss (Pulkowa)	·161 Courvoisier

\* *Annals of the Munich Observatory*, vol. iii.

† *Publications of the Heidelberg Observatory*, vol. iii.